



Members:

Rep. Charlie Brown, Chair
Rep. Jeffrey Linder
Sen. James Lewis
Sen. Patricia Miller

LSA Staff:

James Mundt, Fiscal Analyst for the Subcommittee
Philip J. Sachtleben, Attorney for the Subcommittee

Authority: IC 2-5-21-6

LEGISLATIVE EVALUATION AND OVERSIGHT POLICY SUBCOMMITTEE

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MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Date: October 21, 1998

Meeting Time: 1:00 P.M.

Meeting Place: State House, 200 W. Washington St., Room 156-D

Meeting City: Indianapolis, Indiana

Meeting Number: 4

Members Present: Rep. Charlie Brown, Chair; Sen. James Lewis; Sen. Patricia Miller.

Members Absent: Rep. Jeffrey Linder.

Rep. Brown called the meeting to order at 1:25 p.m. The minutes from the previous meeting of the Subcommittee were reviewed and approved. Rep. Brown announced that the purpose of the meeting was to consider a recommendation concerning the restructuring of interim committees.

Interim Committees

The members of the Subcommittee discussed the existing interim committee procedure. Sen. Miller expressed concern that there are too many interim committees. She also indicated that some issues which are considered during the summer must then be reconsidered during the legislative session.

Sen. Lewis said that it is important to recognize legislators who have an interest in a specific issue. He expressed concern that a proposal which limits the membership of interim committees to members of standing committees which deal with the specific subject matter would not allow for those legislators with a unique interest.

The members then discussed the differences between SB 211-98 which had been introduced by Sen. Miller and HB 1336 which had been introduced by Rep. Brown. Rep. Brown suggested introducing a bill based on SB 211-98 with two changes. First, the NCSL Host Committee would be removed from the list of interim committees to be repealed by the bill. Second, the bill, as

written, calls for an interim committee membership of twelve, with six coming from each chamber. Language will be added to provide for the membership to increase by four, for a total of sixteen, in situations approved by the chairman and vice chairman of the Legislative Council. This is designed to recognize legislators who have an interest in a specific subject, but do not serve on one of the standing committees which would provide the membership of the interim committee under the original language of SB 211-98.

The Subcommittee adopted a motion to recommend introduction to the General Assembly a final bill draft based on SB 211-98 with the two changes described above.

Other Business

Rep. Brown asked Jim Mundt, LSA, to describe the progress being made on the evaluation report concerning the impact of the ISTEP+ graduation examination on students with learning disabilities. Mr. Mundt stated that preliminary research has begun and that at least three issues have been identified. First, the concern by the parents of some students that insufficient notice was given prior to the administration of the examination. Second, the possible conflict in state law concerning the requirement of taking a pre-graduation examination and the exemption from standardized testing in a student's individual education plan. Third, there is concern that Federal assistance could be withheld if the standardized testing program does not comply with Federal assessment eligibility requirements.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.